			FILED Date
	AMENDMENT	NO	Time
			Clerk
			Comm. Amdt
	Signa	ture of Sponsor	
AMEND Senate Bill No.	173	House Bill No.	435

by adding the following as a new section:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 65-1-101, is amended by deleting the section in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

- (a) There is a commission consisting of five (5) members known as the Tennessee public service commission. At least one (1) member shall be from, and reflect the concerns of, each grand division of the state. A commissioner is a state officer, and each shall serve a term of six (6) years.
- (b) The incumbent commissioner in each grand division shall continue to hold such office until the successor from that grand division is appointed and sworn in by the general assembly. Thereafter, the general assembly shall, by a joint vote of both houses during the organizational session, appoint the appropriate number of commissioners biennially to succeed such commissioners whose term expire next after the previous appointment.
- (c) During the organizational session of the general assembly in 1997, one (1) commissioner from East Tennessee, together with two (2) commissioners from any grand division of the state, who meet the qualifications set out in subsection (d) of this section, shall be appointed for the state by a joint vote of both houses of the general assembly. During the organizational session in 1999, the general assembly shall, by a joint vote of both houses, appoint for the state a commissioner from Middle Tennessee and during the organizational session in 2001, the general assembly shall, by a joint

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vote of both houses, appoint for the state a commissioner from West Tennessee. If a vacancy on the commission occurs more than thirty (30) days from the date the general assembly is next scheduled to be in session, such vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the governor to serve until the next session of the general assembly. The general

assembly shall then, by a joint vote of both houses, appoint a person to serve for the

remainder of the unexpired term.

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(d) Appointments shall reflect the following requirements:

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- (1) The majority political party shall be represented on the commission by three (3) commissioners.
- (2) The leading minority political party shall be represented on such commission by two (2) commissioners.
- (e) At least one (1) such commissioner shall represent the interests of

 Tennessee consumers of public utility services and shall be an attorney, accountant or

 degreed engineer familiar with consumer and public utility issues.

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